

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An infection management system, comprising:
a catheter with a lumen extending therethrough;
a side-arm tube extending laterally from a side of the catheter, wherein
5 the side-arm tube is located in a region of the catheter which remains outside a
patient's body, and
a lumen through the side-arm tube communicates with the catheter lumen;
a one-way valve which prevents fluid flow from the catheter lumen through the side-
arm tube lumen without preventing fluid flow through the catheter lumen; and
10 an antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device configured to be inserted through
the side-arm tube lumen and the one-way valve into the catheter lumen.
2. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein
the catheter comprises a catheter body and an extension joined to a proximal end of
15 the catheter body, the extension having a lumen extending longitudinally therethrough and in
communication with the catheter lumen, and
the side-arm tube extends laterally from the catheter extension.
3. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein
20 the antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device comprises an antimicrobial
agent-bearing rod.
4. The infection management system of claim 3, wherein
the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod comprises a flexible polymer rod.
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5. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein
the antimicrobial agent is iodine.
6. The infection management system of claim 1, wherein

a region of the catheter to be located within the patient's body comprises a material which permits passage of an antimicrobial agent released from the antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device from the catheter lumen to an outer surface of the catheter.

5 7. The infection management system of claim 3, further comprising:

a cap, wherein the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod is affixed to the cap, and the cap is adapted to seal a proximal end of the side-arm tube after the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod is inserted into the catheter lumen.

10 8. The infection management system of claim 7, wherein
the cap has a threaded portion that cooperates with a threaded portion on the side-arm tube.

15 9. The infection management system of claim 7, wherein
the cap is a stopper sized to frictionally engage and seal the proximal end of the side-arm tube.

10. An infection management method, comprising the steps of:
providing a catheter with a lumen extending therethrough, a side-arm tube extending
20 laterally from a side of the catheter, wherein the side-arm tube is located in a region of the catheter which remains outside a patient's body and a lumen through the side-arm tube communicates with the catheter lumen, and a one-way valve located to prevent fluid flow from the catheter lumen through the side-arm tube lumen without preventing fluid flow through the catheter lumen; and
25 inserting an antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device through the side-arm tube and the one-way valve into the catheter lumen.

11. The infection management method of claim 10, wherein
the catheter comprises a catheter body and an extension joined to a proximal end of
30 the catheter body, the extension having a lumen extending longitudinally therethrough and in communication with the catheter lumen, and

the side-arm tube extends laterally from the catheter extension.

12. The infection management method of claim 10, wherein
the antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device comprises an antimicrobial
5 agent-bearing rod.

13. The infection management method of claim 12, wherein
the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod comprises a flexible polymer rod.

10 14. The infection management method of claim 10, wherein
the antimicrobial agent is iodine.

15. The infection management method of claim 10, wherein
a region of the catheter to be located within the patient's body comprises a material
15 which permits passage of antimicrobial agent released from the antimicrobial agent-bearing
intervention device from the catheter lumen to an outer surface of the catheter.

16. The infection management method of claim 10, further comprising:
a cap, wherein the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod is affixed to the cap, and the cap is
20 adapted to seal a proximal end of the side-arm tube after the antimicrobial agent-bearing rod
is inserted into the catheter lumen.

17. The infection management method of claim 16, wherein
the cap has a threaded portion that cooperates with a threaded portion on the side-arm
25 tube.

18. The infection management method of claim 16, wherein
the cap is a stopper sized to frictionally engage and seal the proximal end of the side-
arm tube.

19. An anti-infection catheter, comprising
a main catheter tube with a lumen extending therethrough;
a side-arm tube extending laterally from a side of the main catheter tube, wherein
the side-arm tube is located in a region of the catheter which remains outside a
5 patient's body, and
a lumen through the side-arm tube communicates with the lumen of the main
catheter tube;
a one-way valve adapted to permit passage of an antimicrobial agent-bearing
intervention device between the side-arm tube lumen and the main catheter tube lumen while
10 preventing fluid flow from the main catheter tube lumen through the side-arm tube lumen,
wherein the one-way valve does not prevent fluid flow through the main catheter tube lumen.

20. The anti-infection catheter of claim 21, wherein
the main catheter tube comprises a catheter body and an extension joined to a
15 proximal end of the catheter body, and
the side-arm tube extends laterally from the catheter extension.